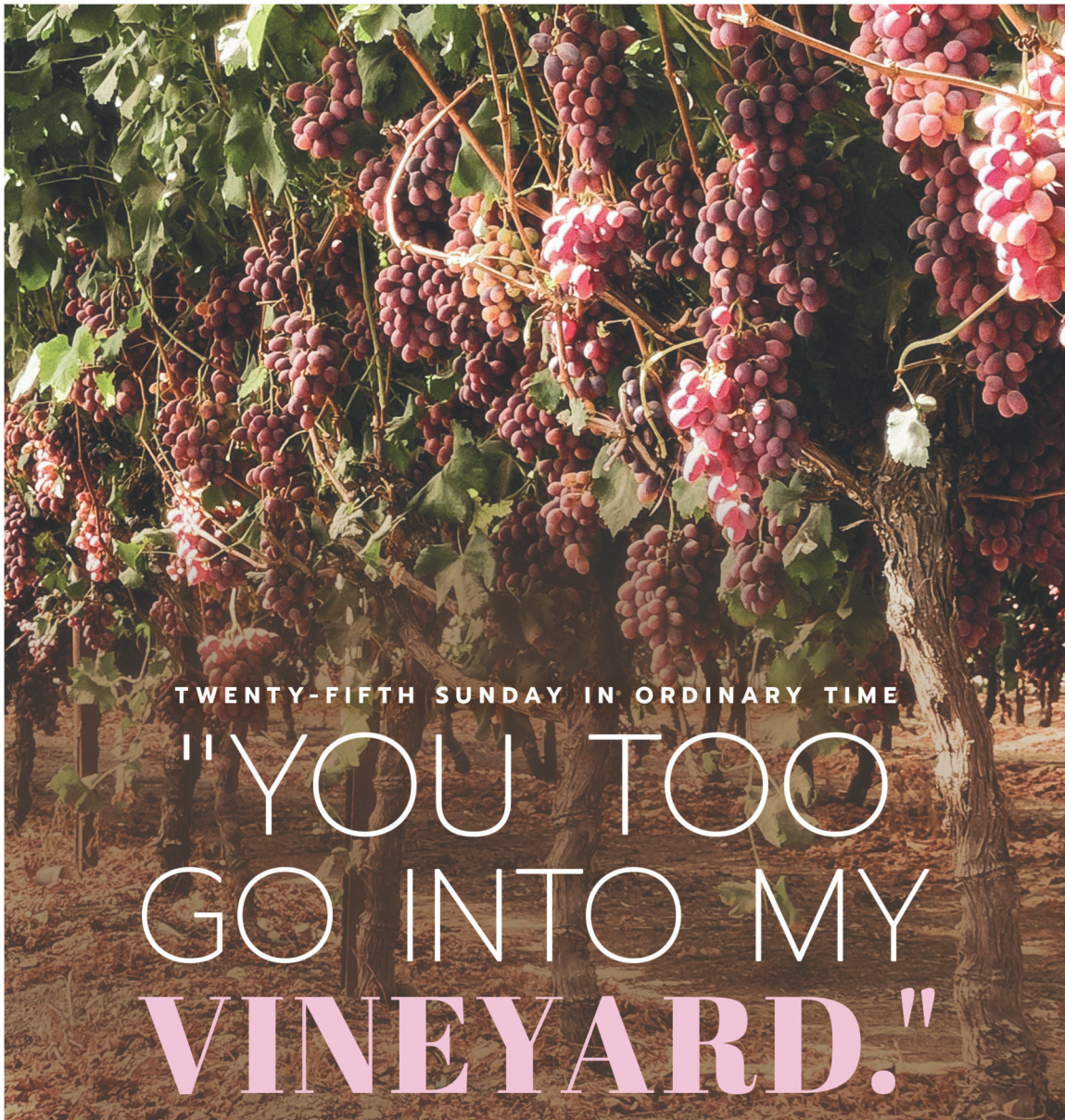




St. Thomas More

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 | 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

"YOU TOO
GO INTO MY
VINEYARD."

8501 CALUMET AVENUE • MUNSTER, IN 46321
(219) 836-8610 • WWW.STM-CHURCH.COM

Welcome to Our Parish

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 | 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

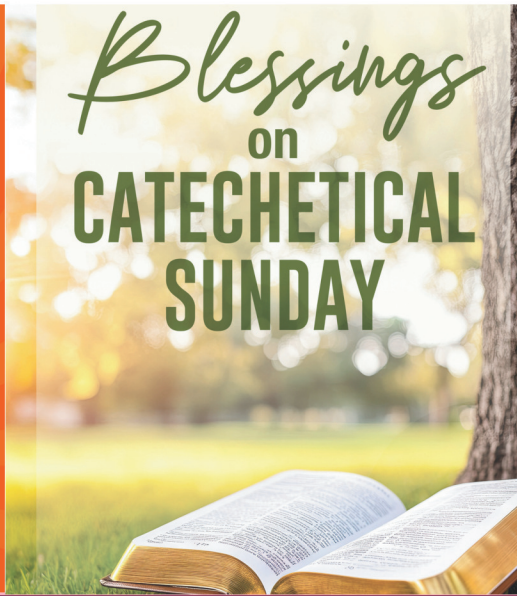
NEW OFFICE HOURS

COME ON IN

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY
8:00 AM - NOON

WEIS CENTER OFFICE:
MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY
12:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Blessings on CATECHETICAL SUNDAY



Parish Office



8501 Calumet Avenue
Munster, IN 46321



Phone | (219) 836-8610
eFax | (219) 533-4280



www.stm-church.com



parish.office@stm-church.com

Pastoral & Parish Staff

*"The Lord is
near to all who
call upon him."
Ps 145*



Reverend
James E. Wozniak

Pastor
Reverend James E. Wozniak
Ext. 2302

Associate Pastor
Reverend Robert Ross
Ext. 2314
rross@stm-church.com

Senior Deacons:
David Kapala, KHS
Dr. Napoleon Tabion, OFS

Deacon:
Joseph Stodola, KHS

Administrative Assistant
Rosa Lopez, Ext. 2316
rlopez@stm-church.com

Pastoral Associate for
Parish Faith Formation
Daniel Maul, Ext. 2415
dmaul@stm-church.com

Director of Music
Angie Van Manen, Ext. 2338
avanmanen@stm-church.com

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Emily Hackett, Ext. 2232
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Susan Brunski, Ext. 2401
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Dir. of Administration of Service,
Ministry, & Mission
Krystal Quagliara, Ext. 2414
kquagliara@stm-church.com

Dir. of Finance & Operations
Charles Schimpf, Ext. 2329
cschimpf@stm-church.com

Receptionist
Phyllis Krizmanic, Ext. 2300
pkrizmanic@stm-church.com

Building Maintenance & Tech.
Contact the Parish Office
or Brian Olmetti
at Ext. 2313

Custodial Supervisor
Kim Smith, Ext. 2331
ksmith@stm-church.com

St. Thomas More School

National Blue Ribbon School,
Preschool to 8th Grade
School Office: (219) 836-9151
M - F: 7:30 am - 3:30 pm
stm-school.com
8435 Calumet Ave.,
Munster, IN 46321

Principal
Dr. Samantha Francis
Ext. 2258

Admissions
Nereida Harretos
Ext. 2309
nharretos@stm-school.com

Administrative Assistant
Jennifer Gonzalez
Ext. 2200

Business Manager
Maria Vega
Ext. 2339

Dir. of Development & Communications
Serjio Flores
Ext. 2307
sflores@stm-school.com

Mass Intentions & Readings

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 | 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Mass Schedule & Intentions For the Week of September 20

SUNDAY, September 20, 2026- Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

6:30 am Adam & Sophie Jez by Children
8:00 am Claire Korable by Jacqueline Rench
10:00 am Ben Sefton by Sefton Family
12:00 pm For Our Parish Family Living & Deceased

MONDAY, September 21, 2026- St Matthew

6:30 am David V. Armitage by Tina DeLuca
8:30 am Jan Cholke by Husband

TUESDAY, September 22, 2026

6:30 am Pamela Lopez by Ariana Antonelli
8:30 am James Laskarin by Wife & Daughter

WEDNESDAY, September 23, 2026- St Pius of Pietrelcina

6:30 am Taruskin Deceased Family Members by Anderson Family
8:30 am Onarena "Peggy" Speranza by Rudy & Janet Rivet

THURSDAY, September 24, 2026

6:30 am Lisa McDonald by Sajn, Kaim, Dernule Families
8:30 am Margareta Buczkowski by Gerda Hogue

FRIDAY, September 25, 2026

6:30 am Sharon J. Siska by Altar & Rosary
8:30 am Gloria Cicirale by Kathy Hatczel

SATURDAY, September 26, 2026

8:30 am Stella Ilickovich by Children
1:00 pm Samora/Nunez Nuptials
5:30 pm Joan Wolak by Wolak Children

SUNDAY, September 27, 2026-Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

6:30 am Marya Holda (Anniv) by Family
8:00 am Bert & Emily Woess by Eileen VanKavelaar & Bert Jr.
10:00 am For Our Parish Family Living & Deceased
12:00 pm Dorothy Smitley by Smitley Family

Readings Week of September 20

Sunday

Sir 27:30-28:7
Ps 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12
Rom 14:7-9
Mt 18:21-35

Monday

Nm 21:4b-9
Ps 78:1bc-2, 34-35, 36-37, 38
Phil 2:6-11
Jn 3:13-17

Tuesday

1 Cor 12:12-14, 27-31a
Ps 100:1b-2, 3, 4, 5
Jn 19:25-27 or Lk 2:33-35

Wednesday

1 Cor 12:31-13:13
Ps 33:2-3, 4-5, 12 and 22
Lk 7:31-35

Thursday

1 Cor 15:1-11
Ps 118:1b-2, 16ab-17, 28
Lk 7:36-50

Friday

1 Cor 15:12-20
Ps 17:1bcd, 6-7, 8b and 15
Lk 8:1-3

Saturday

1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49
Ps 56:10c-12, 13-14
Lk 8:4-15

Next Sunday

Is 55:6-9
Ps 145:2-3, 8-9, 17-18
Phil 1:20c-24, 27a
Mt 20:1-16a



Our prayers for the eternal repose
of the souls of

Patrick J. Burns
Thomas Oliver Moser
Anthony J. Labeots

and for comfort and peace for their families.
Please keep them in your prayers
during this time of loss.

Reconciliation

Saturday | 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm
First Friday | Half hour before the
6:30 am Mass or by appointment

Eucharistic Adoration

Every Monday
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm
First Friday of the Month
9:00 am - Noon
Parish Chapel

News & Updates

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 | 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

WEEKEND OF August 30

Adult & Holy Days	\$17,017.00
Children & Holy Days	\$0.00
Loose & Holy Days	\$2,191.00
Automated	\$8,433.72
Collection Total	\$27,641.72

WEEKEND OF September 6

Adult & Holy Days	\$19,807.00
Children & Holy Days	\$0.00
Loose & Holy Days	\$3,991.00
Automated	\$6,306.69
Collection Total	\$30,104.69

We thank you for your generous donations!

DONATE TODAY

Online Giving

Automatic Offering Make Life Easier with Automated Contributions to Our Parish

Rather than weekly envelopes, you may find it easier to make your regular parish contributions via our online system. Each time you donate, St. Thomas More Parish benefits from contributions to support our ministries, programs and facilities. Follow the instructions below if you, too, would like to utilize our online system.

Make a Payment Online:

Donate online through our parish website by using PayPal/debit/credit. You may also scan the QR Code or Link Directly at www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=TQTQJV2KT2UKS

Questions?

Contact Maria Vega, Business Manager: (219) 836-8610, #2339 or mvega@stm-church.com No matter how you give, your contributions to STM are appreciated.



Please Pray for....

Nancy Almason	Katie Kardes Hargett	Thomas Mordaunt
Antonio Belmonte	Rosa Hernandez	Bernadine Nemeth
Diane Bochnowski	Elaine Herrmann	Margaret Nickrent
Linda Braun	Robert Heseck	Clare O'Brien
Jack Brunetti	Steve James	Dennis Perz
Diane Butler	Barbara Jamrose	Lucille Perz
Ursula Cichy	Kelly Jean	Carolyn Ramanna
Kevin Clark	Margaret Jones	Ruth Ramirez
Loretta Clott	Deacon David Kapala	Antonia Rodriguez
Charlotte Conn	Joseph D. Karulski	Paul Runick
Valerie Czapkowicz	Mary Alyce Kelly	Frankie Santos
Janice De Vries	Susan Kolodziej	Sharon Sellberg
David Dull	Gregory P. Koscielski	Karen Sliwa
Gabriela Gallegos	Loretta Krowczyk	Steven Sliwa
Denise Gard	Crystal Kurek	Georgianne Suto
Rich Gard	Jordan Lesniewski	Michele Thomas
Gary Gardner	Diane Lind	Rosemary Thomas
Joan Glinski	Paul A. Martin	Russ Thomas
Howard Gralewski	Carolyn McGill	David Trotman
Margaret Gray	Sandi Merlo	James Wachel
Christine Greenberg	Gino Michels	Kathy Wachel
Mary Ellen Gullicks	Madeline Mikolanis	Judith Zawada
Jeffrey Gunning		



If you would like to add yourself or someone else to this list and our Circle of Prayer Group, please go to: <https://tinyurl.com/42tadtyn>, use the QR code, or call the Parish Office at (219) 836-8610.

Altar Servers



Saturday, September 26

5:30 pm MC - Hunter
AS - G. Knight,
T. & Z. Sproat

Sunday, September 27

8:00 am MC -
AS - B., E., & J. Rueth

10:00 am MC - Gabi/Adrian
AS - S. Santellano,
E. Arteaga,
& A. Sudac

12:00 pm MC - Nina
AS - E. Banach & J. Dye

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Greeters

Saturday, September 26

5:30 pm Mass

Main: Bill & Chris Retseck
Chapel: Kimberly Eurlay
Choir:

Sunday, September 27

6:30 am Mass

Main: Krystal Quagliara
Choir:

8:00 am Mass

Main: Dick & Sue Wilson
Chapel: Toni & Zig Jedrzejczak
Choir:

10:00 am Mass

Main: Jose & Paula Serrano
Chapel: Maggie Arteaga
Choir:

12:00 (Noon) Mass

Main: Trinidad & Gladys Escobedo



If you would like to be a Greeter, please contact Lisa Mendoza at 718mendoza@gmail.com.

News & Updates

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 | 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

HUDDLE UP FOR FALL FUN!

Final days to RSVP!!

ST. THOMAS MORE FALL FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4 | 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
STM SCHOOL GYM

FAMILY ACTIVITIES AND GAMES
FREE HOTDOGS, NACHO BAR & BEVERAGES
RAFFLE

WEAR YOUR FAVORITE TEAM JERSEY!



Family last names beginning with:
A - R - please bring a side dish
S - Z - please bring a dessert

TO RSVP,
SCAN QR CODE!

Indiana Charity Gaming
Annual Raffle License #002629

Disaster Relief Fund Get Help : Give Hope

Recent severe weather events have left many of our Northwest Indiana neighbors facing significant challenges.

As the Body of Christ, we are called to walk alongside our neighbors in times of need. Through the Disaster Relief Fund, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Gary is providing direct assistance to residents as they recover and rebuild.

If you or someone you know needs help, we're here.

If you would like to help our neighbors who are struggling in the aftermath of the storms, please consider a gift to the Catholic Charities Disaster Relief Fund.

100% of gifts to the Disaster Relief Fund go directly to local residents recovering from the storms.

Visit our website
catholic-charities.org



“
PRAY,
HOPE,
AND DON'T
WORRY.
”

ST. PADRE PIO

GOSPEL MEDITATION

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
Matthew 20:1-16

Every December, the priests of my diocese gather for a Christmas dinner with our bishop. Nearly 200 of us in one room: newly ordained and long retired, pastors of large parishes and quiet confessors, men full of energy and others moving more slowly. Some carry visible success; others bear hidden wounds. It is a tapestry of vocations and lives. When the bishop thanks us, I am always moved. For a moment, none of our differences matter. What matters is that we belong to one another.

I usually leave that evening with a deep sense of peace, but also with a sober realization. Nothing drains joy from the vineyard of the Lord faster than comparison. The quiet habit of measuring, ranking, and resenting can creep in even among those who sincerely serve God.

That is what Jesus exposes in today's parable of the workers in the vineyard. The early laborers are not upset because they were treated unjustly; they are angry because others were treated generously. Their resentment blinds them to the gift already in their hands. When the landowner asks, "Are you envious because I am generous?" he names the real wound.

This tension echoes throughout salvation history: the elder brother resenting the prodigal, the faithful servant scorning the latecomer. Jesus does not deny the labor of those who have borne the heat of the day, but he refuses to let God's mercy become a zero-sum game.

In the end, the vineyard's reward is not about fairness but belonging. The joy offered is communion with a generous Father, who delights in gathering early and late, strong and weak, into one household of grace.

— Father John Muir

©LPI

News & Updates

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 | 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ST. THOMAS MORE MOVIES AT MORE PRESENTS

MOVIE NIGHT

Wake Up Dead Man (2025)

PG-13 (Adult content - Adults Only Suggested)
Run time: 2h 24m
IMDb rating: 7.3/10

Detective Benoit Blanc teams up with an earnest young priest to investigate a perfectly impossible crime at a small-town church with a dark history.

6:30 PM Thursday, October 29 Weis Center - Conference Room

Fr. Mike Schmitz reacts to "Wake Up Dead Man: A Knives Out Mystery"

Babysitting available upon request!
Please call the Parish Office at (219) 836-8610 to reserve a spot.

FEATURING

Scan to view official trailer!

TO RSVP, PLEASE SCAN QR CODE

You Serve. We Thank. God Bless.

Blue Mass

A CATHOLIC MASS HONORING Those Who Serve and Protect

Join us as we come together in prayer to honor and give thanks for the men and women who selflessly serve our communities.

POLICE OFFICERS FIRE FIGHTERS 911 OPERATORS EMTs & PARAMEDICS CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS AND ALL PUBLIC SAFETY PERSONNEL!

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2026
11:00 AM

St. James the Less Catholic Church
9640 Kennedy Ave, Highland, IN 46322

All Are Welcome! ♥
PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER AND THANKSGIVING FOR THOSE WHO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
— MATTHEW 5:9

Lunch Provided FOLLOWING MASS

PLEASE RSVP BY September 20

OR CALL THE PARISH OFFICE (219) 924-4220

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COURAGE, YOUR SERVICE, AND YOUR SACRIFICE.
We Appreciate You!

Week at a Glance

WEEK OF: SEPTEMBER 20 - SEPTEMBER 26 - WEIS CENTER

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 20 7:00 am - 12:00 pm Flu Shots - Room 107 9:30 am Altar Rosary Meeting - Main Hall	WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 23 9:30 am Bible Study - Room 101 1:00 pm Seniors of STM Board Mtg. - Room 107
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 21 5:30 pm Parent Bible Study - Room 101 7:00 pm Emotions Anonymous - Room 101 Holy Name Society - Room 102	THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 24 5:30 pm Girl Scout Troop 15650 - Main Hall 6:00 pm Evening Scripture Study - Rooms 101 & 107
TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 22 7:00 pm BoyScout Troop 542 Meeting - Main Hall Mental Health Ministry - Room 101	FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 25 9:00 am Gifts of Love & Warmth - Room 101
	SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26 10:00 am Student Book Club - Room 101

News & Updates

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 | 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Is God calling you to something more?
Discover the Catholic faith.



A journey of faith, discovery,
and belonging.

If you are considering becoming a Catholic
(or if you were baptized Catholic, but never received your
sacraments), then OCIA is meant for you.

To learn more, join us...
Tuesday, September 22, or
Tuesday, September 29
(attend either evening)

7:00 pm

Meet in the Parish Conference Room.

OCIA classes begin on Tuesday, October 6
and will meet every Tuesday evening at 7:00 pm.



Holy
Name
Society

Monday, September 21
7:00 pm
Weis Center,
Room 102

September meeting will feature a
talk by Deacon Gary Wolfe of
St. Michael the Archangel Parish
in Schererville.

Earlier this year, Deacon Gary's
son was involved in a tragic
accident. During the difficult
days that followed, Deacon Gary
and his family prayed for the
intercession of Blessed Michael
McGivney, founder of the
Knights of Columbus.

His son's remarkable and well-
documented recovery has been
nothing short of miraculous.

Join us as Deacon Gary shares
his family's powerful story of
faith, prayer, and the intercession
of Blessed Michael McGivney.



NATIONAL
MIGRATION WEEK

News & Updates

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 | 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Break it Down, 80's Style!

HIP HOP

STEP AEROBICS

XTRME
HIP-HOP with
SUAVECITO

80/90's Workout Dress Theme!
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15
6:00 - 7:00 PM
STM GYM
\$30 - DRINK INCLUDED!
BRING A YOGA MAT

To RSVP,
Scan the
QR Code!



NUTRITION
101
@NUTRITION_101

Prayer of the Faithful

We Pray...

*That we recognize
everything we have and
everything we are is a
gift from God, including
our very own lives.*

STEWARDSHIP REFLECTION

September 20, 2026
25th Sunday
in Ordinary Time

*"Thus, the last will be first, and
the first will be last".
Matthew 20:16*

You've heard the saying
"it's not where you start,
but how you finish." This
certainly applies to this
Bible passage. We have a
responsibility not only for
our own lives, but for the
lives of others as well. We
are called to generously
share our gifts with others,
not hoard them for our
own use. Our sincere
gratitude and cheerful
generosity will help us live
"God-centered" lives and
not "self-centered" lives.



Guiding our youth through the storms of life

RAINBOWS

for all Children

*Rainbows,
a grief support group for
elementary-aged children who
have experienced any type of
loss such as
death, divorce, deployment, etc.*

Please contact Emily Hackett at
ehackett@STM-school.com for
more information or to enroll.



*Meets
on the first
Monday
of each month
beginning
October 5 at 6:00 pm
in Weis Center.*



News & Updates

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 | 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

YOUTH CHORALE

Open to all children 2nd through 8th grades

The Youth Chorale is looking for new members for the choir season.
We sing twice a month at the Saturday, 5:30 pm Mass.
Practices are from 4:00 to 5:30 pm on the days that we sing.
We also sing for Christmas Eve 5:30 pm Mass.



If you would be willing to share your singing talent with the parish, e-mail Laura Javorka at ljavorka@stm-school.com or call (219) 836-8610 ext. 2340 to register.



HANDBELL CHOIR

Faith in Every Ring



We are in need of two new handbell choir members this year. Choir members need to be available to practice on Wednesday evenings on a regular basis and to play at the Saturday 5:30 pm Mass once a month. Music reading skills are required.

If interested in joining this ministry, call or e-mail Laura Javorka at (219) 836-8610 ext. 2340 or ljavorka@stm-school.com.

St. Francis Pet Blessing

Paws, claws, and everything in between!
Bring your pets to our St. Francis Blessing of the Animals and celebrate God's love for all creatures.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3
12:00 PM
GRASSY AREA IN FRONT
OF THE CHURCH



ALL PETS WELCOME REGARDLESS OF THEIR RELIGION!

FALL FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Why sit on the bench, when you can play on the team?

We could use a MVP like you!

Use the link to see the open time slots and volunteer opportunities available.

No one will be scheduled for the whole event, so you can still come and enjoy yourself while giving of your time and talent.



News & Updates

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 | 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

19th Annual Friends of the Poor Walk

The Friends of the Poor Walk is an annual event sponsored by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. All funds raised go directly to our St. Vincent de Paul conference here at St. Thomas More, which uses the money to help neighbors in need with NIPSCO bills, mortgage payments, and rent.



Saturday September 26
Location: Lemon Lake County Park
6322 W. 133rd Ave., Crown Point
Check-in: Starts at 9:00 am
(registration form at the check-in table)
Walk begins: Promptly at 10:00 am

Route: A half-mile paved track around the lake
Afterward: Fellowship picnic for all attendees

Walking is not required, come sit in the pavilion, enjoy the picnic, and meet fellow Vincentians from across the Diocese of Gary.

How to Donate:

Cash and check donations are welcome and may be dropped off at the Parish Office or turned in at the event. Please make checks payable to "Society of St. Vincent de Paul" and write "Friends of the Poor Walk" on the memo line.

RSVP:

If you plan to attend, please contact Mike Martinelli so we can get an accurate headcount for the picnic:

Phone: 219-922-1923

Email: themartinellis@att.net

Our St. Vincent de Paul conference members are deeply grateful for our parishioners' support — without it, we couldn't help our neighbors in need throughout the Diocese of Gary.

HELP US HELP OTHERS



WE ARE HIRING

- Join Our Team -

Open Position:

- Custodial positions for school & church

We're hiring reliable custodial staff to join our team!

Responsibilities:

- Clean and sanitize offices, classrooms, restrooms, and common areas
- Empty trash and restock supplies
- Sweep, mop, vacuum, and dust surfaces
- Event setups for church & school

Requirements:

- Prior cleaning experience preferred (not required)
- Reliable and detail-oriented
- Able to work independently and lift up to 50 lbs
- Day/evening shifts available
- Reliable transportation

To Apply: Email Kim Smith at custodial@stm-school.com



Mondays - 7:00 PM
Weis Center - Room 101

WHAT: Emotions Anonymous is a 12-step program, based off the recovery program of Alcoholics Anonymous.

WHO: Anyone experiencing emotional difficulties who is willing to try this recovery program.

WHY: To gain knowledge and support from others experiencing the same or similar underlying emotions.



A prayer ministry where we, like St. Monica, pray for our children to return to the practice of their faith.

Thursday, October 8
9:00 AM - 10:00 AM
in the Chapel

Meets every 2nd Thursday of the Month Immediately following the 8:30 AM Mass

Meetings will include prayer as well as faith sharing and fellowship among mothers.

News & Updates

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 | 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Daniel Maul
Pastoral
Associate for
Parish Faith
Formation

As We Forgive Those...

My daughter apologizes *way* too much. I feel bad about it, because I wonder if we've raised her in a way that makes her feel that it's her fault for any negativity in our lives. I sure hope not. She also apologizes for *everyone* – even her archnemesis: her little brother. I've tried teaching her that she needs to apologize *only* when she's done *wrong* and, to be considerate, when she's accidentally hurt someone, but that's not to take the blame for it. Accidents aren't really one's fault. She's still trying to learn when it is or isn't appropriate to take the blame and apologize. In fact, even when *I've* done *her* wrong – mainly through impatience, inattentiveness, or callousness – she'll ask *me* for forgiveness. These are the moments in which I feel the absolute *worst*.

It's very difficult for us, Christians, to understand contrition and forgiveness and the appropriate times for each. It's pretty simple, but sometimes even the simplest of things are hard for us to grasp and even harder yet to live out. Contrition is appropriate, whenever we *know* we've done wrong and are sorry for it. Well, contrition is *really* called for *whenever* we've done wrong, but we shouldn't lie and apologize when we're not *truly* sorry. Pretty simple, right? Hard to get through our thick skulls, though, and put into practice.

Forgiveness is *always* appropriate, whenever someone has wronged us. However, we struggle to understand the implications of this clear directive from Jesus. If we forgive someone, does that mean that we must remain in *relationship* with that person? No. The person might actually be *dangerous*. Are we called to forgive people only when they're truly sorry? No. It doesn't matter if the person is sorry; we're called to forgive even people who aren't sorry for having wronged us. This is a most difficult "pill to swallow," for sure.

It's pretty easy to forgive people from whom we don't expect much, like strangers, coworkers, and, sometimes, even friends. However, the opposite is *not* quite so easy: forgiving people from whom we *do* expect much, such as our parents and spouses. We expect practically the *impossible* from them: unconditional love, always putting us absolutely first, an ever-ready willingness to forgive us, total awareness, whenever they've hurt us, and perpetual patience and kindness. This kind of love, however, can come only from *God*. We, humans – including our parents and spouses – aren't quite so divine and will inevitably hurt one another. Only contrition and forgiveness can repair the breach and reconcile individuals. Only Love works miracles.

Famed psychologist, Carl Jung, said, "Marriage is *the* psychological relationship." Want to know your psychology? Get married. I've heard other psychologists say something like, "Want to know if you're nice and fair? Look at how you treat your spouse." These words cut me deeply. I've got a lot for which to be sorry.

Thank God for His forgiveness. Let's ask Him for the grace to be half so forgiving.



Thursday, October 8

1:00 PM

Weis Center

Find friendship, a community of understanding support and a group of women for social activities.

Meets every 2nd Thursday of the Month

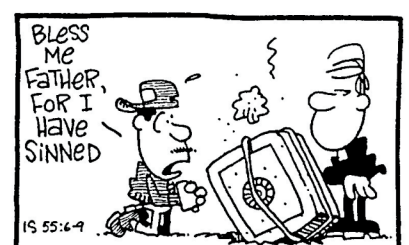


CATHOLIC TRIVIA – JUST FOR FUN

Question: John F. Kennedy, the first Catholic American president and member of the Knights of Columbus, established which distinguished volunteer organization?

Answer on page 12, lower right

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



News & Updates

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 | 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Join our fun group of active Seniors! You do not need to be a St. Thomas More parishioner... everyone 55+ is welcome!

Join Us!

Wednesday, October 7

All Meetings are at the Weis Center at 1:00 pm (unless noted otherwise).



Our October 7th meeting will be part business, part social. We'll enjoy some brain games and puzzles, along with fun and refreshments. Annual dues of \$10 will also be collected. Bring a friend!

SAVE THE DATE — October 21st
Annual Day of Reflection

The morning will begin with 9:30 am Mass in the Chapel, celebrated by Fr. Michael Yadron. Following Father's talk, lunch will be held at the Weis Center at 12:00 pm.

NOTE: Reservations are required.
Lunch is \$12.

Make your reservation now for this enlightening event. Reservations can be made at meetings or through the Parish Office.

Deadline for reservations: Friday, October 9th.

Stay active. Stay informed. Stay healthy.

NURSERY SCHEDULE

The 10:00 AM Nursery will be **CLOSED** for September.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Our Sunday morning nursery needs a few more helping hands! All ages welcome, including 8th grade and high school students needing service hours.

Interested? Please call Ann Harkenrider at (708) 334-5228. All volunteers 18 and over must have completed the Virtus training.



Saturday
October 10
9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Weis Center
Main Hall

Guest Speaker will be
Fr. Robert Ross

All are Welcome!

PLEASE NOTE!

WEIS CENTER ROOM SET UP!



Please let us know your preferred room setup at least 72 hours before your event. This helps us get the room transitioned and ready for you!



Answer: The Peace Corp



St. Thomas More School

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 | 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Remembering 9/11

In Remembrance of September 11, we paused and reflected to remember those who lost their lives, their families, all the brave first responders, military members, and those who served and sacrificed for others. We prayed for all those affected by September 11 and we also educated our younger generation on the importance of remembering this day and never forgetting 9/11.



More in Motion: Fall into Barre

Our First Annual More in Motion was a SUCCESS! With over 30 participants, we came together as a community to move, have fun, and prioritize wellness and fellowship. A special thank-you to STMS alumna Elizabeth Buska for leading us through an energizing Barre workout class. Mark your calendars for October 15! Our next More in Motion will be feature an exciting Xtreme Hip Hop Step Aerobics class!



New Life Begins with Transformation

Our 2nd and 3rd graders had the special opportunity to witness caterpillars from our garden transform into beautiful monarch butterflies and release them into the world.

This experience connected beautifully with their religion lessons on Baptism and new life. Before releasing the butterflies, our students gathered together, said a prayer, and asked Mary to watch over them as they began their journey into God's beautiful world.



Parish Information

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 | 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

PARISH MINISTRIES & ORGANIZATIONS

WORSHIP

Altar Servers

Kathy Tolnai (708)212-7419

Environment & Art

Helen Jaworski (219)836-1833

Jim Landowski (708)204-4690

Eucharistic Adoration

Mona Hernandez (219)730-5860

Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist

James Kaspar (219)836-2343

Greeters

Lisa Mendoza (219)902-9688

Lectors

Richard Gard (219)614-7322

Livestream Ministry

Joann Hajduch (219)836-9151, 2245

Music Ministry

Angie VanManen (219)836-8610, 2338

Nursery

Ann Harkenrider (708)334-5228

Ushers

Al Gallagher (312)493-8457

GROW

Altar & Rosary

Kaaren Mashura (219)836-5079

Bible Study – Wed. AM

Cindy Keilman (219)923-9862

Bible Study – Thurs. PM

Louisa Jurich (219)742-0118

Ray Martinez (773)573-5636

Bible Study – Parents

Natalie Rebholz (262)349-0572

Katie Lopez (765)427-3332

Grateful Hearts Widows Ministry

Elaine Herrmann (219)902-0702

Holy Name Society

PJ Caraher (219)680-6775

Live Christ Share Christ

Deacon Tabion (219)836-8610, 2318

OCIA

Deacon Joe Stodola (219)689-1001

Seniors of St. Thomas More

Judy Hamer (219)836-7916

Small Groups

Daniel Maul (219)836-8610, Ext. 2415

T.G.I.F. Teen Ministry

Vacation Bible School

Emily Hackett (219)836-8610, 2232

Vocation Guidance

PJ & Margaret Caraher (219)680-6775

SERVE

Circle of Prayer & Millions of Monicas

Carolyn Cenko (219)741-2509

Cooking for the Homeless

Steve Resler (219)765-9228

Gabriel Project

Denise Jones (219)616-5413

Garden Ministry

Bob Thomas (630)363-7978

Gifts of Love & Warmth

Bernadine Nemeth (219)513-6544

Knights of Columbus

Daniel Straka (219)427-6563

Mental Health Ministry

Julius Ballanco

(219)689-1699

Ministry of Consolation

Susan Rousseau (219)743-8511

Pastoral Care of the Sick

James Kaspar (219)836-2343

Respect Life

Leslie Kaim (219)741-3739

Scouting

Girl: Cynthia Navarette (773)726-2411

Boy: Dustin Anderson (219)712-8752

Cub: Kandace Mack (708)415-4133

St. Joseph Soup Kitchen

Joy McCullough (219)838-4104

St. Vincent de Paul Society

Michael Martinelli Themartinellis@att.net

COMMISSIONS

Formation/Education

Tim Jevyak (219) 644-8932

Parish Life

Debra Harker (219) 742-2773

Peace & Social Justice

Mari Casas (219) 801-0615

Spirituality Worship

Joe Dubczak (708) 214-2991

Stewardship

2026 – 2027 PASTORAL COUNCIL

Chairperson: Deborah Gena
Vita Ayala, Denise Barlage,
Noreen Bickel, Mike Englert,
Elaine Herrmann, Christi Kordeck,
Paul Liszewski, Lisa Mendoza,
Claudia Pernal, Cindy Thompson,
& Sue Wilson

SACRAMENTAL INFORMATION

Confessions

Saturdays: 3:30 PM to 4:30 PM

First Friday: Half hour before
the 6:30 AM Mass

Marriage

Must be a registered, practicing
member of the parish at least six
months before beginning the
six-month program.

Communion Calls

Visits to Hospitals & Homes:
Call the Parish Office to schedule
Sacraments for those in the hospital or
homebound.

Baptisms

First & Third Sundays immediately
following the noon Mass. Parents
must be registered parishioners
& regularly attending at least six
months before the Baptism.
At least one of the godparents
must be a practicing Catholic.

Pre-Baptism Class

2nd Tuesday 6:00 p.m.

Parents must call the
Parish Office to schedule
class and/or Baptism.



Parish Information

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2026 | 25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Parish Office:
8501 Calumet Avenue
Munster, IN 46321

New - Parish Office Hours:
Monday through Friday
8:00 am - Noon

New - Weis Center Office:
Monday through Thursday
12:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Telephone: (219) 836-8610
eFax: (219) 533-4280

Mass Schedule:
Saturday: 8:30 am & 5:30 pm
Sunday: 6:30 am, 8:00 am,
10:00 am, & 12:00 pm

Weekday Mass:
M, T, W, Th, & F - 6:30 am & 8:30 am

Website: www.stm-church.com
Email: parish.office@stm-church.com

New Parishioner Registration

New parishioners may register at any time in the Parish Office. You may also visit the Information Table in the Narthex before or after Mass on weekends. Please contact Daniel Maul with additional questions -
(219) 836-8610, ext. 2415,
dmaul@stm-church.com



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